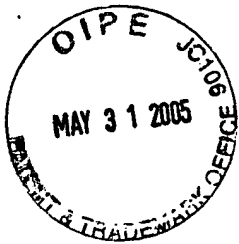


IFW



Docket No. DEP5118

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Hawkins et al. Group Art Unit: 3732
Serial No.: 10/608,987 Examiner: Ramana, Anuradha
Filed: June 26, 2003
Title: Dual Durometer Elastomer Artificial Disc

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Amy Schick, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on May 27, 2005.

Amy Schick (signature)
AMY SCHICK

May 27, 2005 (date)

Thomas M. DiMauro (name of Registered Representative)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Amendment

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 3, 2005 Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments below and reconsideration of the above-captioned patent application in view of the following remarks:

Listing of the Claims begins at page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin at page 6 of this paper.